



FACT SHEET



New Jersey Business & Industry Association



- The US EPA's Best Workplaces for CommutersSM recognition honors employers who offer superior commuter benefits to their employees.
- 63 employers will be recognized on the Metro NY-NJ-CT first annual list of Best Workplaces for CommutersSM.
- Over 100,000 employees covered by the Metro NY-NJ-CT 2004 Best Workplaces for CommutersSM.
 - help eliminate up to 45,000 metric tons per year of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide (CO₂)—equivalent to the amount of carbon stored in 37,000 acres of pine trees or filling the playing field of Yankee Stadium 46 times!
 - help reduce formation of unhealthy ground-level ozone smog by eliminating up to 100 tons of volatile organic compounds (VOC), up to 150 tons nitrogen oxides (NOx), and up to 850 tons carbon monoxide (CO) per year.

Local Commuting

- New York City residents have the longest average commute of any large city in the U.S.
- New Yorkers spend an average of one full week per year getting to and from work. Their average one-way commutes are 34.8 minutes.
- In 2000, more people drove alone to work (2.2 million) than took mass transit (1.9 million) in the greater New York metro area.
- The annual cost of traffic congestion in greater New York City is over \$8.4 billion per year, or \$490 per person.
- In 2001, New York City area commuters wasted 696 million gallons of fuel (41 gallons per person) because they were stuck in traffic.
- Over 1.3 million cars per day currently enter Manhattan.

Why Metro NY-NJ-CT needs Best Workplaces for CommutersSM

- For more than 19 days last summer, the air in the greater New York metro area was unhealthy to breathe, exceeding federal pollution standards for ozone smog.
- Work travel to Manhattan will grow by 25% between 1995 and 2015.
- The New York Metropolitan Region, including 31 counties in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, is expected to grow by 2.66 million people between 1995 and 2020.
- If a quarter of all U.S. employees worked for employers offering commuter benefits at the National Standard of Excellence level as encouraged by Best Workplaces for CommutersSM, up to 22 million metric tons of CO₂ from cars would be eliminated annually.
- A typical worker who switches from driving alone to using mass transit can save more than \$1,000 per year in transportation costs such as gas and wear and tear and can avoid driving 5,000 miles a year.

Metro NY-NJ-CT Best Workplaces for CommutersSM Coalition

New York Metropolitan Transportation Council • Metropolitan Mobility Network
 The Business Council of Southwestern Connecticut • The County Chamber of Commerce Inc.—Westchester •
 Greater New York Chamber of Commerce • Human Resources Association of New York
 Long Island Association Inc. • New Jersey Business & Industry Association
 North Jersey Regional Chamber of Commerce • Rockland Business Association Inc.
 Westchester County Association • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency